



**NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

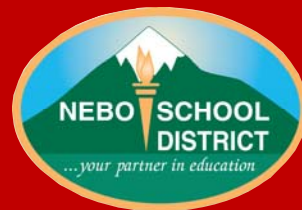
- **Nebo District has nearly 30,000 students 2011-2012.**
- **Nebo District has over 4,000 employees.**
- **Nebo District is the 7th largest district in Utah.**
- **Nebo District is the 5th largest employer in Utah County.**

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# Nebo News

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## Cheer Up!

We can all learn from an article in the online Reader's Digest titled *Cheer Up!* by science writer, Matt Ridley. He said, "The world has never been a better place to live in, and it will keep on getting better." Ridley also states, "It is not insane to believe in a happy future for people and the planet." Ridley, who's been a foreign correspondent, a zoologist, an economist, and a financier, brings a broad perspective to his sunny outlook. "People say I'm bonkers to claim the world will go on getting better, yet I can't stop myself," he states. Read on to see how Ridley makes his case. Brilliant or bonkers? You decide.

1. **We're better off now** — Compared with 50 years ago, the average human now earns nearly three times as much money (corrected for inflation), eats one third more calories, buries two thirds fewer children, and can expect to live one third longer. In fact, it's hard to find any region of the world that's worse off now than it was then, even though the global population has more than doubled over that period.
2. **The good old days weren't** — Some people argue that in the past there was a simplicity, tranquility, sociability, and spirituality that's now been lost. This rose-tinted nostalgia is generally confined to the wealthy. It's easier to wax elegiac for the life of a pioneer when you don't have to use an outhouse. The biggest-ever experiment in back-to-the-land hippie lifestyle is now known as the Dark Ages.
3. **We are the luckiest generation** — This generation has experienced more peace, freedom, leisure time, education, medicine, and travel than any in history. Yet it laps up gloom at every opportunity. Consumers do not celebrate their wonderful field of choice and, according to psychologists, say they are "overwhelmed." When I go to my local superstore, I do not see people driven to misery by the impossibility of choice. I see people choosing.
4. **Optimists are right** — For 200 years, pessimists have had all the headlines—even though optimists have far more often been right. There is immense vested interest in pessimism. No charity ever raised money by saying things are getting better. No journalist ever got the front page writing a story about how disaster was now less likely. Pressure groups and their customers in the media search even the most cheerful statistics for glimmers of doom. Don't be browbeaten—dare to be an optimist!

## Favorite Apps from Technology Curriculum Staff

1. **Memo Connect Reader** (free): access your Google docs from your iPad
2. **Splashtop Remote HD** (\$4.99): remotely access, control, and annotate your computer screen from iPad
3. **Evernote** (free): save and organize ideas, files, websites, images, sounds into searchable notebooks that can be accessed from anywhere
4. **Tools4Students** (\$.99): 25 graphic organizers covering common comprehension skills
5. **Toontastic** (free): easily create cartoons and animations
6. **My SpellTest** (free): Enter and record spelling words; track tests
7. **Educreations** (free): turns iPad into a recordable interactive whiteboard
8. **Chicktionary Lite** (free): Anagram game fun for all ages. Paid version available
9. **Project Noah** (free): Earn badges and complete missions by taking pictures of plants and animals and geo-tagging them. Look at images others have submitted globally
10. **Peek** (free): Create your own self-monitored quizzes using Evernote. Only works with iPad2 and smart cover
11. **Khan Academy** (free): Quick access to all of Khan Academy's instructional videos
12. **NASA** (free): Images and live-streaming videos from NASA
13. **Dragon Dictation** (free): Voice recognition application allows you to email, send notes, tweet, etc. and see your results instantly
14. **Dragon Search** (free): Speak your search queries and get simultaneous results from a variety of top websites

## Nebo's Classified Employees of the Year

### Joy Maughan – Nebo Employee of the Year 2011-2012



Superintendent Rick Nielsen, Employee of the Year  
Joy Maughan, Duane Ludlow, and Allen Gurney

*For Retirees:  
Retirement  
Luncheon  
May 2, 2012  
11:45 a.m.*

**Teacher  
Training:  
July 10 & 11  
July 17 & 18**

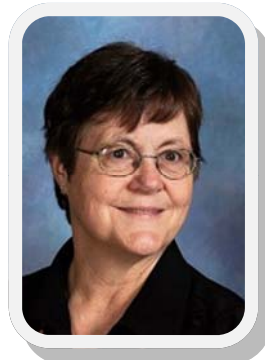
- ◆ Elementary Math Core K-5
- ◆ Language Arts 6th Grade
- ◆ Math I Core 7th & 8th
- ◆ Math II Core



Allen Puckett  
Computer Technician



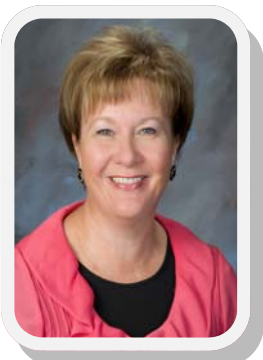
Charles Betts  
Lead Warehouseman



Christine Hart  
Educational Technician



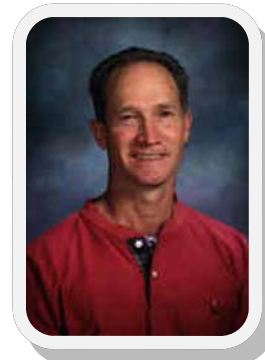
Dalless Kearn  
Food Service Manager



Joy Maughan  
Secretary



Marie Steadman  
Bus Technician



Paul Finch  
Maintenance Custodian



Rodney Hall  
Head Custodian

#### **Graduation Dates**

*PHS: May 22, 2:00*

*SFHS: May 22, 6:00*

*SHS: May 23, 10:00*

*MMHS: May 23, 2:00*

*SHHS: May 23, 6:00*

## Nebo's BEST (Behavior Enhancement Support Team) Project

This year a number of teachers have been involved in the Nebo BEST (Behavior Enhancement Support Team) Project. Amidst the push for becoming better teachers of academic subjects, teachers need to become more proficient "Classroom Managers."

Marzano and others have shown that the most effective method of improving behavior is **what** teachers do and **how** they do it, consistently, over time, with fidelity. The second component

in the BEST Project is implementing 2-5 minute daily social skills lessons.

Teachers know that students excel when they are given explicit instruction. This holds true when teachers are discussing both academics and social skills.

The final component of this project is to give teachers tools to help manage whole class and/or individual behaviors. At least twice a month a new technique is sent out to the teachers involved in this project.

Neeley Kay, special education teacher, said, "The BEST project has had great feedback from those teachers who have consistently implemented these daily lessons. It has been exciting to see the positive changes in the classrooms where positive behavior interventions are being implemented."

You can view the BEST Projects Tool of the week at <http://www.nebo.edu/sped/pages/best.html>.

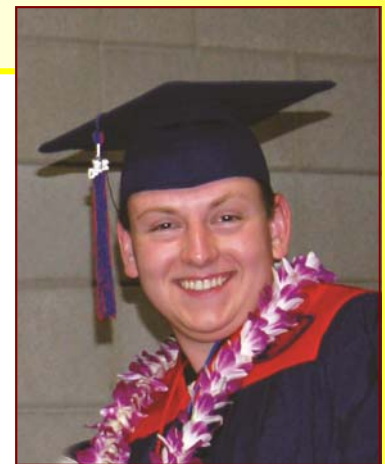
## Exciting Opportunities for Nebo Students

Early College Advanced Learning Center (ECALC) is an advanced learning center for all Nebo students in grades 11 and 12. ECALC will be located at the current location of the Nebo Learning Center, 570 South Main Street, Springville. ECALC will host classes over a wide variety of interests including pre-nursing, medical forensics, apps programming, computer networks, animation, web-design, and many more. Classes at ECALC are designed to help students develop 21st Century Skills for College and Careers.

ECALC allows students to take advanced classes while staying enrolled in their high school where they can continue to partici-

pate in clubs, activities, and athletics. Students need to attend ECALC for a minimum of two periods either in the morning or afternoon, A or B day (e.g., A1, A2 or A3, A4). This helps eliminate students trying to travel between schools during class breaks and arriving late for their next class. Students are not limited to two periods but can take as many classes as they wish in two period blocks.

Take some time and view the ECALC website and see the great opportunities that are available to students as they prepare for college and careers. School counselors have begun the enrollment process for next year. If teachers have



students that are interested in ECALC, have students contact the school counselor.

You can find more information about ECALC at <http://ecalc.nebo.edu>. You are also welcome to contact the principal, Alan Ashton, at 801-489-2833 or email [alan.ashton@nebo.edu](mailto:alan.ashton@nebo.edu).

## Seth Sorensen, Author of The Utah Story, Visits Schools

Nebo School District's curriculum specialist and author of *The Utah Story*, took time to visit Taylor Elementary's fourth-grades.

The students look forward to science and social studies each day because they spend time learning about the state of Utah. Students in Mrs. Courtney Corbin's and Miss Brittney Wayman's classes have been studying fossils and dinosaurs of Utah.

Mr. Sorensen has a unique passion for

researching, collecting, and studying fossils from different periods in time. He brought dinosaur teeth, maple leaf fossils, mammoth tusks, and even a Allosaurus claw, which happens to be his favorite dinosaur.

Student, Jace Holland, said, "I liked seeing the Allosaurus skull cast because it was cool to see how small their brain was."

Taylor's fourth-grade students say, "Thank you Mr. Seth Sorensen for taking time to visit our class and 'dig' up our interest in fossils!"





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**Focus on Students**



**Live Your Dream**

*"To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream, not only plan but also believe."*

*By: Anatole France*

**Nebo District's Celebrations:**

**Employee Celebrations:**

- Chad Argyle Honored by Mayor James DeGraffenried for Mayor's Recognition Award
- Jethro Gillespie Honored as Utah High School Art Teacher of the Year
- Jim Griffin Running for Utah State House Seat 67
- Bradley Moss, MMHS, Selected for National Coalition Core Art Standards Media Arts Writing Team

**Administrator Appointments:**

- Brett White – Salem Hills High Assistant Principal
- Wade Tischner – Salem Hills Assistant Principal
- Chris Loveless – Payson High Assistant Principal
- Matt Christensen – Spanish Fork High Assistant Principal
- Nate Whitney – Diamond Fork Assistant Principal
- Jesse Sorensen – Payson Junior Assist. Principal
- Ron Penrod – Springville Junior Assistant Principal
- Brenda Burr – Principal Sage Creek Elementary
- Daryl Fluckiger – Wilson Principal
- Ryan Murray – Orchard Hills Principal
- Lynette DeGraffenried – Goshen Principal
- Mike Duncan – Cherry Creek Principal
- Keri Huntsman – Foothills Principal
- Lisa Muirbrook – Riverview Principal
- Michael Johnson – Hobble Creek Principal
- Garrett Andersen – Larsen Principal
- Troy Bohling – School Services Coordinator
- Sandra Jarvis – Human Resource Coordinator
- Reese Brunson – Technical Service Coordinator
- David Rowe – Mentoring & Evaluation Coordinator

**Student Celebrations:**

- Sage Creek places 18 of their 22 entries at the Nebo District Science Fair
- PHS newspaper staff wins 6 awards at 7th Annual Deseret News Competition
- SHHS Chelsea Connelly selected to meet President Obama
- SHHS Eric Merkley chosen for the 2012 Spirit of Sport Award by UHSAA
- SHS DECA had six students place in the top three in the state: Amy Tingey (1st), Lesli Mortensen (1st), Jehni McNeil, (1st), Audri Petro (1st), Tommy Merrell (3rd), Codie Zamora (3rd)
- MMHS Sorelle Voce (all girls) Received the Command Performance Award from BYU's festival.
- Nathan Bingham, fifth grade Sage Creek, took 6th Place at State Chess Tournament
- Spanish Fork Junior math students, Austin Theurer and Alyson Jardine, scored top 5%
- Justin Blake & Brendan Murphy Named UTAH National Geographic Bee Semifinalists
- SFJHS takes 12 students to English Quest Competition: Maya McKinney First Place, Kyla Rogers Third Place, Marianna Tonga Semi-finalist
- SHS FFA Received \$2,000 Food Grant
- Karson Oyler, First Grader at Riverview Takes 3rd Place at State Chess Tournament
- Congratulations to all our music & drama for doing so well at region and state!

**If your successes are not listed above, please get awards to [iana.hiskey@nebo.edu](mailto:iana.hiskey@nebo.edu) with Award and Nebo News in the subject line.**

**For the rest of the story on these celebrations:**

**Please go to the [www.nebo.edu](http://www.nebo.edu) or the school's website.**